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SIPDIS

STATE FOR PM/DTCC - BLUE LANTERN COORDINATOR

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: ETTC KOMC TT

SUBJECT: BLUE LANTERN CHECK DILI CASE 050209036

REF: STATE 4067

¶1. Summary: Post completed Blue Lantern check, case number 050209036, Dili Defense and Supplies (DDS) on February 9. According to DDS and Policia Nacional Timor-Leste (PNTL) there was an initial agreement to order grenade launchers and pepper spray. The order never materialized and both parties have made no mention of initiating any future orders. The PNTL stated they ordered grenade launchers and pepper spray for use and issuance to their riot control unit. DDS is a small business, primarily selling law enforcement, military, and safety products to United Nations (UN) personnel stationed in Dili. End summary.

¶2. On February 9, RSO met with DDS representative Jason Mark WALKIN, tel: +670-732-9856, email: Jason@dds-tl.com, Rue Matires Da Patricia, Landmark Plaza, unit 02-11, Fatuhada Dili, Timor-Leste. The office is located on the second floor, above one of the main supermarkets in Dili. It is a small office (approximately 9ftx9ft) that consists mainly of paramilitary gear; vests, rucksacks, boots, and some tactical type clothing. It should not be considered a secure location to handle sensitive United States Munitions List (USML) items. They have no other facilities within Timor-Leste.

¶3. The consignee had listed as their point of contact Johnny LEONG but according to WALKIN, LEONG is in Singapore and is not expected back in Timor-Leste until February 20. WALKIN stated he is not as familiar with the PNTL order as LEONG but did say that LEONG told him on February 8 that the order was cancelled with no future continuation date.

¶4. The end use for the USML items was, according to Agustino GOMES, PNTL, for their riot control unit. Although the order never materialized an agreement was made between the PNTL and DDS that when the items arrived the PNTL would provide an escort to a secure PNTL location where the items would have been stored. DDS does not have secure facilities nor any procedures for handling sensitive USML items.

¶5. DDS was established in 2001 in Singapore by LEONG and WALKIN. They currently have a store in Singapore and prior to starting DDS served approximately 7-years in the Singaporean military as infantry soldiers. The Dili store, established in 2008, focuses on the 1,500 UN police personnel assisting Timor-Leste under a United Nations mandate. Items sold include a myriad of law enforcement accessories and clothing. WALKIN stated he understands the restrictions on USML items, especially the prohibition against unauthorized re-transfer and re-export.

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